

REMARKS

The Office Action dated July 30, 2007, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1, 15, 26, and 33-42 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Claims 1-7 and 9-55 are currently pending in the application and are respectfully submitted for consideration.

Claims 1-7, 9-25, and 42-52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Specifically, the Office Action asserted that the phrase including "unforeseen" did not meet the possession requirement of 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. The claims have been amended to replace the term "unforeseen" with "unknown," and it is respectfully submitted that the claims, as amended, meet the possession requirement of 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. In certain embodiments of the present invention; it is described that the user of a packet-based service can start a service session without having to check whether the other members of the group are connected to the packet-switched domain, and the other members may join the session even if their terminals are not connected to the packet-switched domain when the session is about to begin. Such a method may be particularly suitable for starting a session of more than two participants, since all the participants can be invited by sending one group message. See paragraph [0013] of the present invention. Accordingly, in light

of the description provided, at least, in paragraph [0013], a person of ordinary skill in the art would be enabled to make and use the claimed invention. Also, according to 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph's written description requirement, the features recited in the claims do not have to be described verbatim in the specification. Thus, the specification does not use the term "unknown" is of no consequence under 35 U.S.C. 112. It is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1-7, 9-25, and 42-52 be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 15, and 42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,020,098 to Ehram. The Office Action took the position that Ehram discloses all of the elements of independent claims 1, 15, and 42. It is respectfully submitted that the claims recite subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested in Ehram.

Independent claim 1, upon which claims 2-14 and 51 depend, recites a method for initiating a packet-based service session for a communication group in a mobile communication system. The method includes composing, in an originating mobile terminal, a triggering message indicating a communication group comprising, in addition to the originating mobile terminal, at least one first mobile terminal, the terminals of the communication group having unknown attachment statuses relative to a packet data network belonging to the mobile communication system. The method also includes sending the triggering message from the originating mobile terminal to the at least one first mobile terminal, so as to inform the at least one first mobile terminal of a packet-based service session of the communication group to be initiated. The method additionally

includes receiving the triggering message in the at least one first mobile terminal. The method further includes in response to the receiving, bringing at least one of the at least one first mobile terminal to a state allowing reception of packets from the packet data network, the packets belonging to the packet-based service session of the communication group.

Independent claim 15, upon which claims 16-25 and 52 depend, recites a system for initiating a packet-based service session for a communication group in a mobile communication system. The system includes message composing means in an originating mobile terminal, the message composing means being configured to compose a triggering message indicating a communication group comprising, in addition to the originating mobile terminal, at least one first mobile terminal, the terminals of the communication group having unknown attachment statuses relative to a packet data network belonging to the mobile communication system. The system also includes first means configured to send a triggering message from the originating mobile terminal to the at least one first mobile terminal, so as to inform the at least one first mobile terminal of a packet-based service session of the communication group to be initiated. The system additionally includes second means configured to receive the triggering message in the at least one first mobile terminal. The system further includes third means, responsive to the second means, configured to bring the at least one first mobile terminal to a state allowing reception of packets from the packet data network, the packets belonging to the packet-based service session of the communication group.

Independent claim 26, upon which claims 27-32, 53, and 54 depend, recites a

method for initiating a packet-based service session for a communication group in a mobile communication system. The method includes receiving in a mobile terminal belonging to a communication group in a mobile communication system, a triggering message indicating the communication group and informing of a packet-based service session of the communication group to be initiated. The method also includes in response to the receiving, bringing the mobile terminal to a state allowing reception of packets from a packet data network belonging to the mobile communication system, the packets belonging to the packet-based service session of the communication group.

Independent claim 33, upon which claims 34-41 and 55 depend, recites an apparatus for a mobile communication system including a packet data network. The apparatus includes first interface unit configured to receive a triggering message, wherein the triggering message indicating a communication group to which the apparatus belongs and informing of a packet-based service session of the communication group to be initiated. The apparatus also includes state transition unit, operatively connected to the first interface unit, configured to bring, in response to the triggering message, the apparatus to a state allowing reception of packets from the packet data network, the packets belonging to the packet-based service session of the communication group.

Independent claim 42, upon which claims 43-50 are dependent, recites a mobile terminal for a mobile communication system including a packet data network. The mobile terminal includes message composing means configured to compose a triggering message indicating a communication group comprising, in addition to the mobile terminal, at least

one first mobile terminal, the terminals of the communication group having unknown attachment statuses relative to the packet data network. The mobile terminal also includes first interface means for sending the triggering message from the mobile terminal to the at least one first mobile terminal, so as to inform the at least one first mobile terminal of a packet-based service session of the communication group to be initiated. The mobile terminal additionally includes state transition means, operatively connected to the first interface means, for bringing the terminal to a state allowing reception of packets from the packet data network, the packets belonging to the packet-based service session of the communication group.

As will be discussed below, Ehram fails to teach or suggest all of the elements of the presently pending claims.

Ehram generally describes a system for reducing latency in establishment of a real-time communication session. The system includes detecting the occurrence of a triggering event that indicates a user is likely to soon request initiation of a real-time media session, before the user actually makes the request. The system further provides reserving a data connection through which the session can be set up and carried and maintaining that data connection for a certain period of time. See abstract of Ehram.

However, Ehram fails to teach or suggest, at least, “sending the triggering message from the originating mobile terminal to the at least one first mobile terminal, so as to inform the at least one first mobile terminal of a packet-based service session of the communication group to be initiated,” as recited in independent claims 1, 15, and 42, and similarly recited in

claims 26 and 33. Ehram is devoid of any teaching or suggestion sending of the triggering message or event to any nodes. As discussed above, Ehram's system merely detects the triggering event, and reserves a data connection through which the session can be set up and carried. See abstract of Ehram.

Further, Ehram is devoid of teaching or suggestion that the terminals of the communication group having unknown attachment status relative to a packet data network belonging to the mobile communication system as recited in the present independent claims. Ehram's system merely reserves a data connection through which the session can be set up and carried. The system of Ehram reserves a data connection within a single device in response to detection of the triggering event. See abstract of Ehram. The system of Ehram does not compose and send a triggering message to a group, in which the terminals of the communication group have, **unknown** attachment **status** as in the presently pending claims. (Emphasis Added) Therefore, Ehram fails to teach or suggest all of the elements recited in independent claims 1, 15, and 42, and similarly recited in claims 26 and 33.

Claims 51-52, 54, and 55 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ehram in view of Gottlieb. The Office Action took the position that Ehram discloses all the elements of the claims, with the exception of the features recited in claims 51-52, 54, and 55. The Office Action then cited Gottlieb to cure the deficiencies of Ehram. The rejection is traversed for the following reasons.

Ehrsam is discussed above. Gottlieb generally describes a device for identifying and communicating with digital communication devices within a communication range that includes a transmitter, a receiver, and voice signal. See abstract of Gottlieb. Gottlieb generally describes a device for identifying and communicating with other digital communication devices. In another instance, Gottlieb generally describes steps of processing buddy information sent from another digital communication device within a communication range. See paragraph [0047] of Gottlieb. Gottlieb's device merely receives and sends a message. The device of Gottlieb does not inform the at least one first mobile terminal of a packet-based service session of the communication group to be initiated as in the present invention.

Applicant notes that claim 51 is dependent upon independent claim 1 and claim 52 is dependent upon independent claim 15. Claim 54 is dependent upon independent claim 26 and claim 55 is dependent upon independent claim 42. As discussed above, Ehrsam fails to disclose or suggest all of the elements of independent claims 1, 15, 26, and 42. Additionally, Gottlieb does not cure the deficiencies in Ehrsam, as Gottlieb also fails to disclose or suggest "sending the triggering message from the originating mobile terminal to the at least one first mobile terminal, so as to inform the at least one first mobile terminal of a packet-based service session of the communication group to be initiated. Gottlieb also fails to disclose or suggest "the terminals of the communication group having unknown attachment statuses relative to a packet data network belonging to the mobile communication system," as recited in the present claims. Gottlieb's

computational unit 148 identifies the communication devices within the range. The device does not compose a triggering message indicating a communication group comprising terminals of the communication group having unknown attachment status relative to a packet data network as in the present invention. Thus, the combination of Ehram and Gottlieb does not disclose or suggest all of the elements of claims 51-52, 54, and 55. Furthermore, claims 51-52, 54, and 55 should be allowed for at least their dependence upon claims 1, 15, 26, and 42, respectively. Accordingly, in view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that claims 51-52, 54, and 55 be allowed.

Additionally, Gottlieb is not a proper prior art with respect to the present application. Gottlieb was filed February 12, 2004. The present application properly claims priority to Finnish Application No. 2003-1886, which was filed on December 22, 2003. A certified copy of the priority document and a translation thereof into English were filed on April 26, 2004. Accordingly, for this additional reason it is respectfully requested that the rejection relying on Gottlieb be withdrawn.

Claims 11, 12, and 53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ehram in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,477,150 to Maggenti (Maggenti). The Office Action took the position that Ehram discloses all the elements of the claims, with the exception of the features recited in claims 11, 12, and 53. The Office Action then cited Maggenti to cure the deficiencies of Ehram. The rejection is traversed for the following reasons.

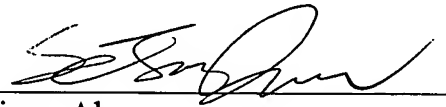
Ehrsam is discussed above. Maggenti generally describes a system for providing group communication services in an existing communication system. Group communications are enabled by installing a communications manager in a data network such as the Internet. However, similarly to Ehrsam, Maggenti fails to disclose or suggest "the terminals of the communication group having unknown attachment statuses relative to a packet data network belonging to the mobile communication system," as recited in the present claims. Thus, the combination of Ehrsam and Maggenti does not disclose or suggest all of the elements of claims 11, 12, and 53. Furthermore, claims 11, 12, and 53 should be allowed for at least their dependence upon claims 1 and 26, respectively. Accordingly, in view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that claims 11, 12, and 53 be allowed.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention recites subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited prior art. Applicant further submits that the subject matter is more than sufficient to render the claimed invention unobvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that each of claims 1-7 and 9-55 be found allowable and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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